

BOOK NOTICES

ELIZABETH SILVERTHORNE. 2002. **Legends and Lore of Texas Wildflowers**. (ISBN 1-58544-230, pbk.). Texas A&M University Press, John H. Lindsey Bldg., Lewis St. 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354, U.S.A. (Orders: wlawrence@tamu.edu, <http://www.tamu.edu/upress>, 800-826-8911). \$24.95 hbk., \$16.95 pbk., 264 pp., 18 line drawings, Bib. Index, 7" × 9".

Forty-four Texas wildflowers are discussed in this book. Their botanical names as well as their common names are given, and stories about the origins and lore surrounding them are the focus. This is not a field guide or identification book, but rather a collection of interesting tales about these particular flowers.

The author does deal with the habitats, descriptions, uses—medicinal and otherwise—of the plants, and tells something of the early botanists. In fact it is crammed with information told in non-technical terms. Some of the flowers are illustrated, although the artist is not credited. It is a pleasant addition to the literature of wildflowers.—*Ruth Ginsburg, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX, U.S.A.*

ROY L. LEHMAN, RUTH O'BRIEN, and TAMMY WHITE. 2002. **Plants of Webb County, Texas**. (ISBN not given, pbk.). Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Dept. of Physical and Life Sciences, 6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78412, U.S.A. (Orders: 512-994-2754, fax 512-994-2742). Price not given, 47 pp., numerous color photos, 1 map, index, 5 1/2" × 8 1/2".

According to the foreword, "This booklet was first designed to be a guide for secondary school, college students and for the laymen interested in flowers and plants found on the Galvan Ranch." It was decided that, as the ranch was no longer accessible to the general public, that the guide be reformat- ted and titled to include common and interesting plants from the county [Webb]."

Each of the species covered in the book includes a color photograph, common name(s), Latin name and some synonyms, followed by a brief description including habitat and flowering time. The authors are to be congratulated for all the hard work on this book. It is especially nice because of the lack of floras for that part of Texas. A big thank you goes to the Ed Rachel Foundation in Corpus Christi for their financial support of the project. The Foundation's support of research on Texas native plants is truly appreciated; what an incredible gift to the people of Webb County and Texas.—*Barney Lipscomb, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-4060, U.S.A., barney@brit.org.*